

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR****Employment and Training Administration****Federal-State Unemployment Compensation Program: Availability of Benefit Accuracy Measurement Annual Report Results**

**AGENCY:** Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the Unemployment Insurance Benefit Accuracy Measurement Annual Report for Calendar Year 1996.

**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this notice is to announce the availability of the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Benefit Accuracy Measurement (BAM) 1996 Annual Report, which contains the results of each State's BAM program, and information on how copies may be obtained. The BAM Annual Report is one of three UI PERFORMS reports to be issued this year. UI PERFORMS is the name of the Department's closed-loop management system for promoting continuous improvement in UI performance.

**DATES:** The Report will be available after July 31, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the Report may be obtained by writing to Ms. Grace A. Kilbane, Director, Unemployment Insurance Service, U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room S-4231, Washington, DC 20210. The Report and this notice contain a list of names and addresses of persons in each State who will provide additional information and clarifications regarding the individual State reports upon request.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Burman Skrable, Division of Performance Review, Data Analysis and Data Validation Team, 202-219-5223, extension 157. (This is not a toll free number.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Each week, staff in each State's Employment Security Agency investigate random samples of UI benefit payments and record information based on interviews with claimants, employers, and third parties to determine whether State law, policy, and procedure were followed correctly in processing the sampled payment.

The Department of Labor is publishing results from the investigations in a digest which includes information on the 52 jurisdictions participating in the UI BAM program. Five items are reported for each State: the amount of UI benefits

paid to the population of claimants, the size of the BAM samples, and the percentages of proper payments, overpayments, and underpayments in the population estimated from the BAM investigations. Ninety-five percent confidence intervals are presented for each of the three percentages as measure of the precision of the estimates. States have been encouraged to provide narratives to further clarify the meaning of the data based on their specific situations.

Since States' laws, policies, and procedures vary considerably, the data cannot be used to draw comparisons among States.

Effective with the release of calendar year 1995 data, States were no longer required to publish their report data; however, persons wanting clarification or additional information concerning a specific State's report are encouraged to contact the individual identified in the following mailing list.

Signed at Washington, D.C., on July 23, 1997.

**Raymond J. Uhalde,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training.*

**State Contacts for 1996 Unemployment Insurance Benefit Accuracy Measurement Annual Report****Alabama**

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

## Employment Standards Administration

## Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the